

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A counter for pills and capsules comprising:

(a) a housing comprising at least one chamber;

(b) a movable plate positioned within the chamber and dividing the chamber into upper and lower sections, the plate movable from a first position to a second position, the plate having a plurality of apertures;

(c) at least one sizing guide, the sizing guide having a plurality of apertures, the sizing guide fitting within the chamber and substantially aligned with and vertically displaced from the movable plate; wherein when the movable plate is in the first position, the apertures in the plate and the apertures in the sizing guide are out of register, and when the plate is in the second position, the apertures in the plate and in the sizing guide are in register.

2. The counter of claim 1 further comprising at least one removable divider adapted to fit within the upper section of the chamber to separate a portion of the sizing guide apertures corresponding to the desired number of pills or capsules to be counted.

3. The counter of claim 1 comprising multiple sizing guides, wherein each sizing guide has apertures corresponding to a particular sized pill or capsule.

4. The counter of claim 1 wherein the apertures in the movable plate and sizing guide are arranged in the same pattern.

5. The counter of claim 4 wherein the apertures in both the movable plate and sizing guide are arranged in rows of five.

6. The counter of claim 1 wherein the housing comprises first and second troughs divided by a wall, the first trough open to the lower section of the chamber and the

second trough open to the upper section of the chamber when the movable plate and sizing guides are present.

7. A pill and capsule counting system comprising:

- 5 (a) a housing comprising at least one chamber, the housing adapted to receive a plate dividing the chamber into upper and lower sections;
- (b) a plate adapted to be movable from a first position within the chamber to a second position within the chamber, the plate having a plurality of apertures;
- 10 (c) a plurality of sizing guides, the sizing guides having a plurality of apertures corresponding to a particular size of pill or capsule, wherein each sizing guide has a single size of apertures, the sizing guides adapted to fit within the chamber in substantial alignment with and vertically displaced from the plate; wherein when the plate is in the first position, the apertures in the
- 15 plate and the apertures in the sizing guide are out of register, and when the plate is in the second position, the apertures in the plate and in the sizing guide are in register.

8. The pill and capsule counting system of claim 7 further comprising at least one

20 divider removably fitting within the upper section of the chamber to separate a region of the chamber corresponding to a desired number of pills or capsules.